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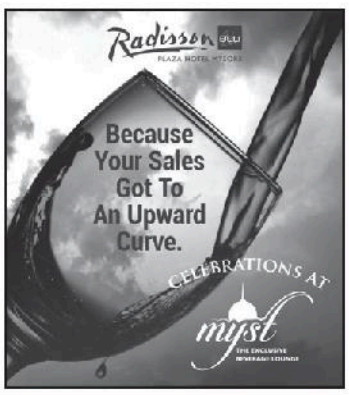


Cinema Halls cancel shows

- No new releases, restrictions force single-screen theatres to suspend shows
- City multiplexes to run normally; to wait for some more time for new films

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (RK&BCT)- Night curfew, weekend curfew and 50% crowd restrictions following rise in COVID cases across Karnataka has meant a lot more losses for single-screen theatres who are already reeling under financial crisis.

As such, all single-screen theatres are suspending shows from tomorrow and even though the State Government is in a mood of lifting the restrictions, the 'no show' will continue as there are no new movie releases and it is not possible to hold the audience with a handful of old movies. However, multiplexes will function normally and they too will wait for new releases.

All single-screen theatres in Mysuru, Mandya, Chamarajanagar and Hassan will temporarily suspend operations from tomorrow, said Gayatri Talkies owner M.R. Rajaram, who is also the Vice-President of Karnataka Film Exhibitors Federation.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, he said that the restrictions have taken a toll on theatres that are facing a financial crisis due to unfair tax structure and other issues. "Even if the restrictions are lifted tomorrow, we will not be able to run the shows as producers have suspended movie-making and we cannot pull people with old movies. In addition to the restrictions, there is a 50 percent seating restriction. So better we shut operations," he said.

(See CINEMA on page 7)

Covishield, Covaxin suggested for regular market approval

New Delhi, Jan. 20 (Agencies)- The Government's Subject Expert Committee (SEC) on Wednesday recommended granting regular market approval to Covishield and Covaxin Coronavirus vaccines, but with certain conditions.

The Serum Institute of India (SII) and Bharat Biotech had submitted their respective applications to the country's drug regulator, the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), seeking full market authorisation for their vaccines. The vaccines are currently only authorised for emergency use in the country.

A market authorisation label for a vaccine means it can be authorised for use without reservations or conditions. For full market authorisation, the regulator would need to evaluate more data about the vaccines collected over a longer period of time.

Taking to Twitter, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) said that the recommendation has been sent to DCGI.

Prakash Kumar Singh, Director (Government and Regulatory Affairs) at SII, had submitted an application to the DCGI on Oct. 25 on this matter. The DCGI had sought more data and documents from the Pune-based company following which Singh had submitted a response along with more data and information recently.

In addition to the successful completion of phase 2/3 clinical study in India, till now, more than 100 crore doses of Covishield vaccine have been administered to the people in this country and worldwide, Singh is learnt to have stated in the response. "Such a large-scale vaccination with Covishield and containment of COVID-19 infection is in itself a testimony of the safety and efficacy of the vaccine," he had said.

Covaxin and Covishield were granted Emergency Use Authorisation (EUA) on Jan. 3, 2021.

(See COVAXIN on page 7)

Experts predict third wave peak by end of month

In Mysuru, 30% peak on Jan. 25, 60% on Jan. 28, 100% peak on Feb. 2

By M.T. Yogesh Kumar

Mysuru, Jan. 20- While there is a discussion on the State Government likely lifting the night curfew and weekend curfew bowing to pressure from various quarters like the business community and also due to milder infection, a technical data released by the State COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in Bengaluru states that the COVID third wave is likely to peak by Jan. 25 and will be active/severe till the second week of February.

In Mysuru, the daily fresh infections will be on an average from 2,250 to 7,000 cases. While the experts have not specified the dominant variant in circulation, sources suggest it is Omicron, given that a majority of infected people are reporting high fever, congestion, body pain and cough for a short duration.

Experts said that it looks like almost every other household will have at least one positive case during the third wave. The only saving grace is that the infections will be milder and due to the antibodies obtained in the vaccination, hospitalisation is not widespread. Still, the administration is geared up to face any eventuality.

As per the data available, in Mysuru, there will be a 30 percent increase in positive cases from Jan. 25, 60 percent increase from Jan. 28 and 100 percent increase in positive cases from Feb. 2. After the peak, the cases will come down. *(See table for neighbouring districts)*

According to experts, during the peak, cases in Karnataka could be anywhere between 70,000 and 1,50,000.

(See EXPERTS on page 7)

District-wise peak times and size of peak for 30-60-100% susceptibles

District	Time of peak 30%	Size of peak 30%	Time of peak 60%	Size of peak 60%	Time of peak 100%	Size of peak 100%
Mysuru	25.1.2022	2,246	28.1.2022	4,561	2.2.2022	6,947
Mandya	20.1.2022	1,154	23.1.2022	2,340	26.1.2022	3,652
Kodagu	26.1.2022	413	28.1.2022	838	29.1.2022	1,305
Chamarajanagar	24.1.2022	512	28.1.2022	1,042	31.1.2022	1,611
Hassan	4.2.2022	4,071	8.2.2022	8,310	14.2.2022	12,351
Bengaluru Urban	19.1.2022	28,723	23.1.2022	58,380	27.1.2022	89,553

'All suggestions followed'

We are following the directions of the COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee. 21 COVID Care Centres will be opened in Mysuru and Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bagadi Gautham has already asked private hospitals to hand over 75 percent of the beds in the worst case scenario. We are ready with essential drugs and also the oxygen generation and supply has been stabilised. Mysuru has become self-reliant in oxygen."

— Dr. K.H. Prasad, District Health Officer

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Thursday 20th January 2022

Issue title deeds to housing beneficiaries: MLA tells MCC officials

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (GA&DM)- Chamaraja Constituency MLA L. Nagendra on Wednesday directed the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) officials to issue title deeds to housing beneficiaries at Medar Block, Manjunathapura and Kukkarahalli areas of the city. The MLA held a meeting in this regard with MCC officials at the MCC's Old Council Hall yesterday.

Addressing the meeting, Nagendra said that civic amenities have been provided to Medar Block, Manjunathapura and Kukkarahalli areas of the city. But still the MCC is not getting any revenues from these areas in the form of tax, due to non-issuance of title deeds to several Ashraya houses. As such, the officials should take measures for distributing title deeds, he said.

Pointing out that there were many affluent people in the list of 2,765 aspirants who have sought sites under Ashraya scheme since 2003-04, Nagendra said that officials must ensure that the benefits of the scheme must reach only genuine beneficiaries.

MCC Commissioner G. Lakshmikantha Reddy and other officials were present.

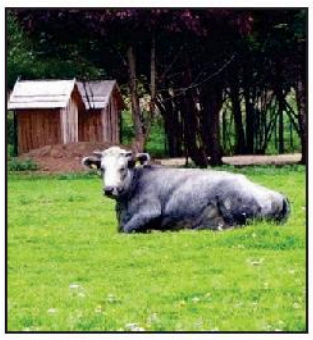
EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

The Narendra Modi Government has decided to draft women commandos of the CRPF for VIP security. That selected commandos are going to be deployed only after an orientation course is reassuring. A commando is a commando in mental and physical toughness, be it male or female. The golden principles of dignitary protection such as body cover, access control, technical checks/ sanitisation, etc., call for honing of several other skills. Hence there is no reason to conclude that women commandos would be unequal to the task. I have personally observed Mahila CRPF personnel doing as well as men in ensuring security drills in the Special Protection Group.

We have some of the best women commandos in every Force/Service. Should we deny them the opportunity to make use of their potential — for public good — just because of gender or biological differences? Then, there are nuances like the comfort level of women dignitaries vis-a-vis women commandos who can perform uninhibited security drills in the event of operational contingencies, including medical emergencies. The best out of these commandos chosen and trained without lowering the benchmark would definitely do very well and strive to prove themselves in the new role assigned to them. — K.V. Madhusudhanan in The New Indian Express

NEWS SPARKLERS

The iconic blue cows of Latvia make a come back



Kurzeme: Once driven close to extinction, the blue cows of Latvia, a proud symbol of the Baltic country, have been making a comeback over the last couple of decades.

Originally found only on the Baltic coast in the Kurzeme region, cows with light blue or dark ultramarine hides can now be found grazing all over the Latvian countryside. In the Soviet era, they were rendered almost extinct, with only a few specimens surviving the culling. Even back in the year 2000 there were only 18 blue cows in Latvia, but today they number around 1,500. The unique breed is now considered a symbol of national identity.

Legend has it that blue cows get their color from the sea, but the fact is that they are born almost beige and gradually change color as time passes.

Playhouses that can cost up to 4,00,000 dollars

Toronto: Most people can only dream of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on their dream home, but some are paying the same amounts, if not more, on intricate, fully-furnished playhouses for their kids.

Charmed Playhouses, a family business based in Letherbridge, Canada, claims to build the world's most fantastic, luxurious and quality playhouses, and looking at some of their creation, we're inclined to agree. But before you start dreaming about your very own backyard fantasy playhouse, you should know that some of these can cost an arm and a leg.

Even though prices start at a respectable 3,500 dollars for a basic playhouse, if you're looking for something special, the bill can easily go into the tens of thousands and up to 4,00000 dollars.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Vitamin C: Vitamin C is a powerful antioxidant that can strengthen your body's natural defences.The recommended daily intake for vitamin C is 75 mg for women and 90 mg for men.
Source: citrus fruits (like orange, lemon,amla), leafy green vegetables, strawberries, carrots, bell peppers and many more fruits and vegetables.

By Kavya J - Department of Nutrition & Dietetics
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Suttur Jathra Mahotsava cancelled: Watch puja ceremonies online

Mysuru, Jan. 20- The Jathra Mahotsava of Adijagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara Shivayogi Mahaswamiji of Suttur Sri Kshethra, Nanjangud Taluk, Mysuru District, scheduled from Jan. 28 to Feb. 2 is cancelled following the Government directives due to resurfacing of the pandemic.

Conforming to the Government's mandate, and in the interest of the public, the Jathra Celebrations have been cancelled including Rathosthsava, Teppothsava, Mass Marriage, Exhibition, Krishimela, Desi Games, Sports and Cultural Programmes.

The celebrations will be a symbolic one and confined to traditional rituals for one day where the public is not allowed.

The Pujas and Processions Sponsors, Donors, Devotees and the general public are requested to cooperate by not visiting the Srikshethra during these times.

However, Puja ceremonies may be watched live through the following links on the evening of Jan. 29 and 30 [https://www.youtube.com/c/JSSMahavidyapeethaonline & https://www.facebook.com/JSSMVP], according to a press release from S. Shiva Kumar Swamy, Secretary, Adi Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara Shivayogigalavara Jathra Mahothsava Committee and JSS Mahavidyapeetha, Mysuru.

REALLY...?

- *The practice of Jallikattu, also known as Eruthazhuvuthal or Manju virattu, is traditionally held annually in Tamil Nadu as part of Pongal celebrations on the Mattu Pongal day which is widely known as Makar Sakranti. The term 'Jallikattu' originates from the Tamil words Salli and Kattu, referring to silver or gold coins tied to the bulls' horns.*
- *Jallikattu is believed to have been practiced at least 2,500 years ago, after an ancient cave painting was discovered near Madurai, which depicted a lone man trying to tame a bull.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Tom: *How should I convey the news to my father that I've failed?*
David: *You just send a telegram: Result declared, past year's performance repeated!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 74.35
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 101.32
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.24
1 Euro	= Rs. 84.40

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

	JANUARY 18	JANUARY 19
Day's Positive Cases	1,848	1,341
Total Positive Cases	1,90,462	1,91,803
Day's Discharges	585	641
Total Discharges	1,79,623	1,80,264
Day's Deaths	3	4
Total Deaths	2,438	2,442
Total Active Cases	8,401	9,097

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

VOICE OF THE READER

Ring Road accidents: Some thoughts

Sir,

The recent fatal accident on Ring Road (near GRS Fantasy Park) is an eye-opener to all. I have been travelling in this road since last 15 years and I find that many motorists are reckless and even impatient while driving.

After the ghastly accident of a PG student a couple of years back, heavy steel barricades donated by RBI were installed on the road along with a scientific road hump made of hard rubber. This was a meaningful move and all vehicles were made to halt and proceed without any issues.

Slowly later, some culprits moved these barricades, first to the footpath side and then, they vanished from the spot! The road is newly metalled in the recent past and it is a tendency of the motorists to zoom very fast here, thus causing fatal accidents and taking the lives of innocent people.

Many have complained and written through these columns about this but still no action is taken. I request the authorities to look into this immediately and install heavy steel barricades as was earlier along with a scientific road hump for smooth flow of traffic and save innocent lives.

—Vijay Hemmige
Vijayanagar Railway Layout
18.1. 2022

Hi-tech Hospital to come up at Ramanagara

Bengaluru, Jan. 20 (KMS & DM)- In yet another initiative concerning health care, the State Government has decided a build a Hi-tech Hospital along the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway at Ramanagara, on the lines of New Delhi's AIIMS (All India Institute of Medical Sciences).

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Higher Education Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan held a meeting in this regard with officials here on Wednesday.

During the course of the meeting, Bommai is said to have directed the officials to construct the Hospital on a 150-acre campus near Ramanagara.

The State Government has also planned to lay the foundation stone for this 1,000-bed prestigious ultra-modern hospital in the first week of March. The Hospital will be a treble bonanza for Ramanagara district as the 10-lane Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway that cuts down time of travel between Mysuru and Bengaluru by more than an hour, is also set to open for traffic by Dasara this year and the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, which is currently functioning from Bengaluru, will also be moved to its original destination Ramanagara.

The total cost of the hi-tech hospital and the University campus is estimated at Rs. 2,300 crore. Though a 700-bed hospital is already coming up at Ramanagara, the setting up of an AIIMS type-hospital in the town will be of huge benefit to the people of surrounding districts and also to the residents of Bengaluru, as Ramanagara is located close to Bengaluru.

HAL to export chopper to Mauritius

Bengaluru, Jan. 20 (UNI)- In line with the Government's vision to boost military exports to friendly countries, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has signed a contract with Mauritius to export an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH Mk III) for that country's Police.

The Mauritius Government already operates HAL-built ALH and Do-228 aircraft.

With this, HAL and Mauritius have further strengthened business relations spanning over three decades.

The ALH Mk III is a multi-role, multi-mission versatile helicopter in 5.5 tonne category.

It has proven its mettle in various utility role including life-saving missions. More than 335 ALHs have been produced till date logging around 3,40,000 cumulative flying hours.

Stray dog menace in city

Funds misuse allegation baseless, clarifies PFA

'MCC pays just Rs. 870 per dog neutered while rules stipulate Rs. 1,400'

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (BCT)- The allegations of funds misappropriation in the stray dog sterilisation process in the city are unfounded and a figment of imagination. All the accounts are audited and publicly available for perusal, said People For Animals (PFA).

At a recent meeting of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Council, MCC Health Officer Dr. D.G. Nagaraj had stated during a discussion on increased stray dog menace that the MCC spends Rs. 3,40,000 per month to sterilise over 400 dogs.

Some Corporators had alleged that it is a clear case of lethargy where the authorities are moving slowly in sterilising dogs. Despite tall claims of sterilisation, the dog population had doubled and tripled over the years, they said.

Responding to this, Dr. Nagaraj said that the dog sterilisation process is being carried out with the support of an NGO and every month over 400 dogs are being neutered and Rs. 850 is being paid to sterilise one dog. Strays caught by the MCC personnel are also handed over to the NGO for neutering.

Some Corporators demanded an investigation on how the sterilisation money is being spent. They questioned why money is being paid to the NGO for the dogs that are caught by the MCC personnel using the Corporation vehicles. They demanded that a Committee be constituted to probe this issue and check for misappropriation of funds.

Responding to the charges, PFA-Mysuru Honorary Managing Trustee Savitha Nagabhushan told *Star of Mysore* that animal birth control (ABC) is the statutory responsibility of the MCC as per the ABC Dog Rules, 2001. Because the MCC does not have the manpower and infrastructure, they normally delegate the same to local NGOs under a tender process.

"Reaching Out To Animals (ROTA), a sister concern of PFA, being the only Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)-approved NGO in Mysuru, takes up the responsibility every year. A rate is fixed for every successful sterilisation that would be paid to the NGO at the end of every month. Costs of surgery, staff salary, medical infrastructure, medication, postoperative care, nutrition, etc. are borne by the NGO," she said.

Way less than stipulated rates

While the MCC dog catchers bring four to five dogs per week, ROTA staff catch 15 to 20 dogs per day for sterilisation. In fact, from March 2021 up to Dec 2021, the MCC dog catchers brought us just 209 dogs while ROTA staff have caught 3,706 strays in the same period.

"Rs. 870 is paid by the MCC per sterilisation as per the tender notification as against Rs.1,400 stipulated by the model guidelines, 2016 of the AWBI. The Bengaluru Corporation pays Rs. 1,200 per sterilisation and 150 for anti-rabies vaccination. Chikkamagalur Corporation pays Rs. 1,400 for male dogs and Rs. 1,430 for female dogs and Rs.120 for anti-rabies vaccination," she said.

"The allegation of misappropriation of funds is baseless and a figment of imagination. All our accounts are audited, publicly available for perusal. On average, 380 to 400 dogs are sterilised every month by ROTA and the organs obtained are properly examined by the members appointed by the MCC. The organs are counted near the CCTV camera and disposed of before the MCC officer," Savitha explained.

Accounts transparent

There is a photographic record of every dog caught for sterilisation, GPS of location. "The rate at which MCC is paying is pushing us into debts. The medical bills and salaries of our veterinarians are sponsored by Dr. D.L. Madhavi, Trustee of ROTA. ROTA Trustee is subsidising the ABC programme and ROTA also provides anti-rabies vaccination at its own cost as the MCC has not accounted for the same in the tender notification," she added.

Furthermore, ROTA, in close association with Worldwide Veterinary Service (WVS), is planning to increase the sterilisation of street dogs to effectively manage the same.

On the reasons behind increased stray dog menace, Savitha said that ROTA sterilises dogs only within the MCC limits. "We do not go beyond the MCC limits and over the years the city has grown far and wide. Dogs do migrate from one place to another and this is one of the reasons for population increase. For proper control, we need to carry out ABC programme extensively, in thousands," she said.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Tyagi Bhavan and Yatri Nivas

Sri Shantinatha Seva Samiti Trust has organised the inaugural programme of Tyagi Bhavan and Yatri Nivas in the presence of Sri Kshetra Jain Mutt Seer Swastisri Bhuvanakeerthi Bhattaraka Pattacharyavarya Mahaswami, at Kote Sri Shantinatha Basadi, New Sayyaji Rao Road on Jan. 21 at 9 am. Trust President S.B. Suresh Jain will preside. MLA S.A. Ramdas will inaugurate. Digambara Jain Samaja, Mysuru President M.R. Sunil Kumar will be present, according to a press release from Trust Secretary.

Free vocational training at CIPET

Central Institute of Petro-chemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET) has invited applications from unemployed youths (both men and women) under the Employment Guarantee Scheme (EGS) to avail free vocational training for 3 and 6 months duration. Free assistance will be provided for food and accommodation during the period. Beneficiaries may avail job opportunities after training. Interested candidates may meet the concerned person directly to enrol for the course at the Office of CIPET, 437/A, Hebbal Industrial Area, Mysuru, with copies of marks card, Caste & Income Certificate, Aadhaar card, six passport size photos and related documents. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2510619 or Mob: 93807-56024 or 90666-48466, according to a press release.

Electric short circuit:
Thermocol factory gutted in fire

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (RK&KS)- Materials worth lakhs of rupees were gutted in the fire caused by an electric short circuit at a thermocol factory on Pampavathi Road, behind the Railway Workshop in Mysuru South last evening.

Yesterday at about 5 pm, factory workers, who saw thick smoke emanating from the factory ran out of the factory and the public informed Saraswathipuram Fire Brigade about it.

Soon, the Fire Brigade staff, who rushed to the spot, managed to douse the fire in an hour-long operation and prevented the fire from spreading further. But by then, materials worth lakhs of rupees was gutted in the fire, according to Police.

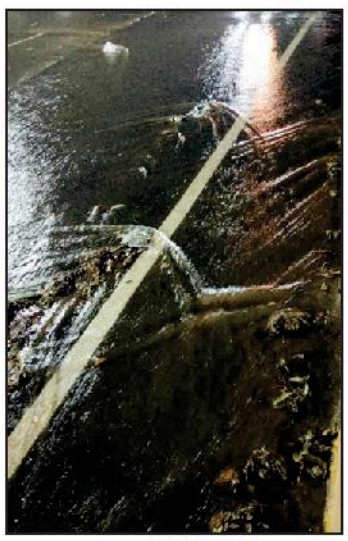
Even Ashokapuram Police Inspector Prakash and staff, who had rushed to the spot, helped the Fire staff in extinguishing the fire.

Ashokapuram Police, who conducted mahazar, registered a case and came to know that the fire was caused by an electric short circuit. The Police said that as the workers ran out for safety when they observed thick smoke, no loss of life or injuries took place.

It is learnt that the factory belonged to one Bhagawan and about 15 workers were working in the factory.

It is learnt that three persons, who were working in the place when the fire broke out, managed to escape miraculously.

Gallons of drinking water wasted



At Mysuru

At Srirangapatna

Mysuru/Srirangapatna, Jan. 20 (SPN&Vinay Karekura) - Gallons of precious drinking water went down the drain in Lakshmipuram here yesterday, while a large quantity of drinking water is still going down the drain at Srirangapatna.

Yesterday, a staff, maintaining the park at Lakshmipuram had switched on the water pump to fill the overhead water tank but forgot to switch off the pump, resulting in the overhead tank getting filled and water overflowed on the road for quite some time.

Residents alleged that none of the MCC staff noticed this and added that though several phone calls were made to MCC Control Room and even Vani Vilas Water Works Office, no one received the call. "Finally, we had to call the Control Room at the DC Office and it was only then one of the staff arrived and switched off the water pump," the residents added.

Srirangapatna: Thousands of litres of drinking water is going down the drain from the broken water pipeline on the road leading to Ganjam coming under Srirangapatna Town Municipal Council (TMC) since three days.

The staff, who had dug up a small pit to fix the broken pipe about three days ago are yet to plug the leakage and the pit is also not filled nor any warning sign boards have been placed. This has resulted in water getting filled in the pit and overflowing on the road. As hundreds of vehicles ply on this stretch of the road daily, the open water-filled pit is inviting danger especially to two-wheeler riders. The residents have urged the authorities concerned to take steps to repair the damaged pipeline and also fill the pit at the earliest.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80 feet
Today	:	121.86 feet
Yesterday	:	122.08 feet
Inflow	:	906 cusecs
Outflow	:	4,081 cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00 feet
Today	:	2,282.80 feet
Inflow	:	189 cusecs
Outflow	:	400 cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00 feet
Today	:	2,822.12 feet
Inflow	:	110 cusecs
Outflow	:	30 cusecs

Man dies after being assaulted for questioning theft of pigeons

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (KS) - A 49-year-old man, who was seriously injured after being allegedly assaulted for questioning theft of pigeons, has died at a private hospital in city.

The assault had taken place at Sunnadakeri in K.R. Mohalla on Tuesday and the deceased has been identified as Govindaraju, a resident of the locality. The accused have been identified as Manoj Nayak, Jayashankar, Vinayak and Pramod Nayak, neighbours of Govindaraju.

Ullas, son of Govindaraju was rearing pigeons and on Saturday night, some persons had stolen

Deceased Govindaraju

38 pigeons of Ullas. He (Ullas) had suspected the hands of Vinayak, Pramod Nayak, Jayashankar, Manoj Nayak and Vijay alias Kuppa behind the theft. On Tuesday, Pramod, a friend of Ullas, suspecting that the pigeons were in the house of Vinayak, went to his (Vinayak) house but was reportedly assaulted by those present in the house. Govindaraju, on learning about Pramod being assaulted, questioned them and irked over this, the four accused, who went near Govindaraju's house, reportedly assaulted him and two women causing injuries.

Govindaraju, who had sustained serious injuries, was rushed to a private hospital, where he succumbed to injuries on Wednesday.

K.R. Police, who have registered a case, have arrested Manoj Nayak and Jayashankar.

Department orders postponement of all elections of Co-operative Bodies and Societies

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (SPN&DM)- Following the third wave of deadly COVID pandemic, the Co-operation Department has directed all Co-operative bodies, Societies etc., to postpone their General Body elections at least until March this year.

The Department's Joint Secretary M. Venkataswamy said that the Department had earlier asked Co-operative bodies not to hold elections till Dec. 2021, in the wake of resurgent pandemic. But as the third wave of the attack is causing havoc, all the Societies have been asked not to conduct elections or stop elections that are already underway, at least until March 2022 or until further orders.

Nandini ghee adulteration racket case

Hunt on to nab prime accused: SP Chethan

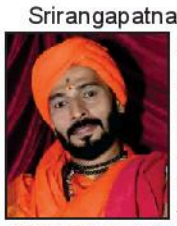
Mysuru, Jan. 20 (RK&KS)- The Police are continuing their search operation to trace and nab the two absconding prime accused in the Nandini ghee adulteration racket that was busted in the outskirts of city last month, said Superintendent of Police (SP) R. Chethan.

He said that seven persons have been arrested in the case as of now and the Mysuru South Rural Police, who are investigating the case have continued their search operation to nab two prime accused, who are still at large.

The SP further said that the accused, after manufacturing the adulterated Nandini ghee, were selling the same to many shops.

Preliminary investigations have revealed that the adulterated ghee was also being sold online. The complete information regarding this will be known only after the arrest of the two prime accused, the SP added.

Controversial remark: Swamiji gets bail



Sri Rishikumara Swamiji

Srirangapatna, Jan. 20 (Vinay Karekura&KS) - Sri Rishikumara Swamiji of Kali Mutt in Chikkamagalur, who was arrested by Srirangapatna Police for uploading controversial statements on Srirangapatna's Jamiya Masjid and remanded to judicial custody by the JMFC Court, has been granted conditional bail yesterday.

Judge Ayesha B. Majida, who heard the bail petition yesterday, granted conditional bail with Rs. 1 lakh surety and surety from a local person besides asking the Swamiji to sign the register at Srirangapatna Town Police Station on every Sundays. The Swamiji was released from the District Prisons at 7 pm yesterday.

Unidentified bodies found

Nagamangala/Mandya, Jan. 20 (Mahesh)- In separate cases, Bellur and Maddur Police have found bodies of unidentified persons in their respective jurisdictions.

In the first case, Bellur Police have found a body of an unidentified woman under the bridge on NH-75 near Kanchinakote Gate in the taluk.

The deceased is aged between 55 and 60 years and was wearing a blue saree and red blouse.

The kith and kin of the deceased, if any, may contact Bellur Police Station on Ph: 08232-287535 or Mob: 94808-04853, according to a press release from Sub-Inspector N. Ramachandra.

In the second case, Maddur Police have found a body of an unidentified man below the Shimsha River overbridge, near Maddur Kolli Circle on Jan. 15.

The deceased has a tattoo of a lion on his left shoulder, has the name 'Racchu' etched on his chest, name 'Kavitha' tattooed in English on his right hand and has the mark of a surgery near his stomach.

Maddur Police, who have registered a case, has asked the kith and kin of the deceased, if any, to contact Maddur Police Station on Ph: 08232-232170.

Awareness Programme on Jan. 24

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (ASC)- Taluk Backward Classes Welfare Department (BCWD) will be conducting an awareness programme on Government facilities for the Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes at Besthara Colony in Mahadevanagara, Hampapura in H.D. Kote taluk on Jan. 24, according to a press release from the Taluk BCWD Officer.

Swami Muktidanandaji launches logo of Nypunya School of Excellence

Swami Muktidanandaji, President of Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru, who launched the logo of Nypunya School of Excellence, in city this morning, is seen with (from left) School Advisor L.P. Ravikumar, School Chairman R. Raghu, Swami Pavitrachaitanya and Principal Shilpa Prashanth.

Mysuru, Jan.20 (RK&DM)- Sri Swami Muktidanandaji, President of Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru, launched the logo of Nypunya School of Excellence, a premier ICSE School founded by R. Raghu, at a programme organised at Ramakrishna Ashram on KRS road here this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Swami Muktidanandaji observed that the quality of education determines the quality of our society. Pointing out that morality based education and creative education are key for the development of the society, he said that Raghu, who has a vast experience in the educational sector, is setting up this school out of concern for building a value-based society.

Hoping that Nypunya School of Excellence will help children improve their analytical and creative skills, the Swamiji opined that lack of quality education is the root of many of the social problems of today.

Maintaining that there are bad things as well just as we have good things, he said that honesty, sensibility and vision are key for a good society.

Pointing out that he has hopes that Raghu would build the school based on the strong foundation of leadership qualities, he said that everyone must understand that conflicts would not solve issues or problems. Stressing on the need for developing a positive mindset, Swami Muktidanandaji said he wished that the new school becomes a knowledge hub for growing children.

School Chairman R. Raghu, in his keynote address, said that the ICSE School is coming up on 20th Main road in R.T. Nagar.

Pointing out that in the beginning the school will have classes from Pre-KG to Class 8 starting from 2022-23 academic year as per ICSE pattern, Raghu said that the school focuses on imparting knowledge and skill based education upon learning about the child's capabilities.

Maintaining that every locality should have a school, he said that the establishment of the school in R.T. Nagar, a relatively new locality, will help in the development of the layout. The new school is being opened in accordance with the requirements of NEP (National Education Policy) and Gurukula system of education, he added.

Swami Pavitrachaitanya, School Advisor L.P. Ravikumar, Principal Shilpa Prashanth and others were present on the occasion.

Seeking COVID risk allowance...

Nurses register their protest by wearing black bands

Mysuru, Jan.20 (MTY&DM)- Seeking payment of COVID risk allowance and incentives, Nurses attached to K.R., Cheluvamba and PKTB Hospitals registered their protest by wearing black arm bands while on work yesterday.

Stating that this is a week-long demonstration where nurses attached to the Department of Medical Education across the State would register their protest by wearing black arm bands, the protestors alleged that the Government had failed in its promise of paying COVID-19 risk allowance and incentives.

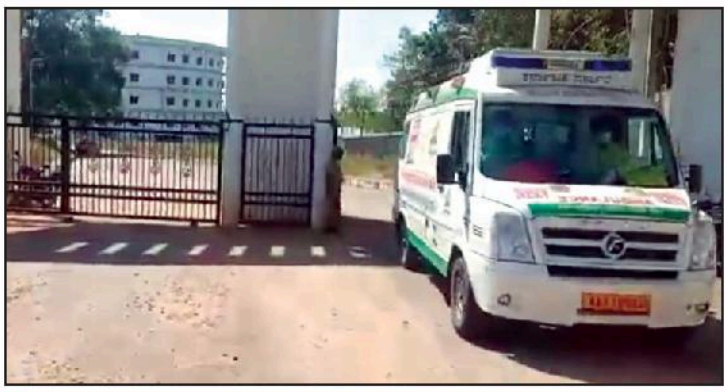
Maintaining that the Government's promise lies only on paper, they urged the Government to release the promised allowances. They further said that they would continue to work by wearing black arm bands for seven days as a mark of protest.

Government Nurses Association President G.N.Girish and others were present.

Helping isolated patients recover faster, happier

KSOU COVID Care Centre at Mandakalli strives to become a model centre again

By M.T. Yogesh Kumar



Mysuru, Jan. 20- The COVID Care Centre (CCC) at Karnataka State Open University's (KSOU) Academic Bhavan in Mandakalli has begun admitting the pandemic's third wave patients and over 92 patients have been admitted there now.

Among the many COVID Care Centres (CCCs) that were established by the Mysuru District Administration, the KSOU CCC stands out with an impressive structure and spacious and well-ventilated rooms.

Since the last one week, the CCC has become a hub of activity with patients and the officials from the District Administration catering to their every need and at the same time ensuring that the patients get good and healthy food and warm clothing and blankets to save them from the early morning chill.

The building has 53 halls and several rooms. As per the guidelines of the Health Department and like in the earlier waves, 15 to 20 beds are arranged in each hall, with a gap of over two metres. All basic needs like bathrooms and toilets and hot water for bathing are offered here.

Notably, in the first and second waves, this CCC was well maintained and the patients did not have much to complain about. Spacious rooms, constant medical attention and good food made patients win their battle with the disease with ease. It was a model CCC in all possible ways.

700 beds arranged

This year too, the authorities are striving to make this a happy place to live and get rid of the infection. As of now, 700 beds have been arranged with the mandatory spacing between them instead of cramped spaces at other CCCs. For the general management of the CCC, H.S. Bindiya, District Officer, Backward Classes Welfare Department, has been appointed as the Nodal Officer.

Three days back, over 100 people were admitted there and as some of them had recovered, they were sent to their homes. The excess patients from the designated COVID Hospital (District Hospital) are being sent here after proper evaluation. As of now, patients have been accommodated in the ground and first floor of the building and beds have also been arranged in the second and third floor to meet any emergency spike.

Stay reduced

When compared to the first and second wave, the number of days that a patient is required to stay at CCCs have been reduced to four to seven days. In the earlier waves, the viral load was heavy and it required a minimum of 10 to 15-day hospitalisation and in the worst case scenario, many patients from the KSOU centre were shifted to the ICUs of other hospitals where the recovery rate improved.

Less days of CCC stay means more patients can be triaged and admitted, say officials and the number of patients will not be a burden. Also, there is no pressure on the administration and health officers to increase the number of CCCs. Officials and doctors told *Star of Mysore* that when compared to the first and second wave, the recovery rate is faster and this has been achieved by maximum vaccination.

Essential and medicine stocks

The CCC has enough stocks of clothing and blankets and care has been taken to stock up medicines at the CCC and one entire room has been kept to stock up medicines. All the drugs to this CCC are supplied by the Warehouse Corporation and the District Health and Family Welfare Department.

"If there are certain medicines that are not available with the Government agencies, only then we will approach private players and as of now, we have not faced such an eventuality," a doctor manning the KSOU CCC said.

Apart from stocking up on essentials and the items used by the patients for day-to-day cleaning and washing, care has been taken to ensure that the inmates stay positive with plenty of entertainment and recreation activities. There is a generator for uninterrupted power supply.

Though asymptomatic patients are being admitted to this CCC, arrangements have been made to supply oxygen and the unit has 30 oxygen concentrators, eight oxygen cylinders and in case of an emergency, an ambulance is stationed here at all times.

To clean the bed sheets, pillows and other materials used by the patients, a laundry unit has been set up and the unit can wash 150 blankets in one go. Such materials from the CCC at Beedi Workers Hospital also come here and are cleaned in this laundry unit, said officials.

Good food, care and security

"Here we have 17 CCTV cameras and security staff work in three shifts. There are separate sections for COVID warriors, children, students and also infected jail inmates. Every bed has a plug point to charge mobile phones. Apart from the regular diet, nutritious food like eggs, fruits, curds, kashaya and ragi mudde is given. Hygiene and cleanliness is a priority in this CCC and exclusive officials are deputed for the purpose. The phone numbers of health officers are displayed at every bed and they can call in emergencies. This apart, we have a 24-member team including doctors, nurses, group D workers and health inspectors for round-the-clock monitoring."

—H.S. Bindiya, District Officer, Backward Classes Welfare Department & Nodal Officer, KSOU CCC

COVID positivity rate may go up by 4,000 to 4,500 daily: District Minister

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (PM&KS)- "There is information that COVID positivity rate may go up by 4,000 to 4,500 cases every day in Mysuru in the first week of February," said District Minister S.T. Somashekar.

He was speaking on the sidelines of free books distribution function held at Kiru Rangamandira in Kalamandira premises this morning.

The District Minister also said that the weekend and night curfews, imposed across the State was not the unilateral decision taken by him or by the Chief Minister but was imposed after consulting experts, Cabinet members and public. The CM will decide on continuing or lifting the curbs on Friday, he said.

The Minister symbolically distributed free books to five Schools and Colleges at the event.

Kannada Book Authority Administrative Officer K.B. Kiran Singh, speaking on the occasion said that free books will be distributed to 198 Schools and Colleges in eight districts — Mysuru, Mandya, Kodagu, Chamarajanagar, Chikkamagalur, Dakshina Kannada, Hassan and Udupi — under Mysuru Division.

Pointing out that similar distribution programme was held in Bengaluru Division earlier, he said that the free distribution of books that are purchased from Publishers every year was now being held in Mysuru Division.

Kannada Book Authority Chairman Dr. M.N. Nandeesh Hanche said that the Authority purchases books worth Rs. 1 crore from the publishers and distributes the same to institutions across the State, which was earlier limited only to Bengaluru Division.

Pointing out that the Government has not provided grants for book purchase since five years, he said that if the Government provides grant, the distribution scheme could be taken up more effectively across the State.

Mayor Sunanda Palanetra, MLAs L. Nagendra and Niranjan Kumar, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, Zilla Panchayat CEO A.M. Yogesh and others were present.

Cinema Halls cancel shows

(Continued from page 1)

Like Gayatri Talkies, many other single-screen theatres including Rajkamal and Sangam too will suspend shows from tomorrow.

However, the staff of Padma theatre told *SOM* that they will continue to operate as the theatre is attracting crowds.

However, multiplexes will continue their shows. *DRC Cinemas, PVR* and *Inox* have confirmed that they will run shows. In fact, PVR and Inox have new releases lined up for tomorrow. Vision Cinemas have not yet confirmed about the shows.

C.R. Hanumanth, who owns DRC Cinemas, said that while shows will run normally, a lot more will depend on new releases. "There are indications from the Government of lifting the restrictions. But if there are no new movies, it will be difficult for us to run the show. As of now, the shows are on and the future without new movies is uncertain," he said.

Experts predict third wave peak

(Continued from page 1)

"This is as per the projections that have been very clearly made by the Indian Institute of Science and the scientists at Indian Statistical Institute. The projection is based on the week-on-week increase in COVID cases. Experts have modelled and they have given the best and worst-case scenario. The best-case scenario is that there would be 70,000-75,000 infections per day towards the end of this month in Karnataka. The worst-case scenario is 1.5 lakh new infections every day for one or two days in the first or second week of February. Mysuru District Administration has upped the ante and is ready to establish 21 COVID Care Centres and more and more hostels have been identified to serve the purpose. Arrangements will be made to face the best case and worst case scenarios, said officials.

Covishield, Covaxin suggested for regular market approval

(Continued from page 1)

"The Subject Expert Committee on COVID-19 of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, which reviewed SII and Bharat Biotech's application for the second time on Wednesday, has recommended granting regular market approval to Covishield and Covaxin subject to certain conditions," an official said.

During last week's meeting, the SEC had sought more data and information from the two companies. At the time, the SEC had asked both the companies to come back with specific conditions backed with data for the full market approval.

The SEC was of the view that it cannot allow SII and Bharat Biotech to sell Covaxin and Covishield in the open market till the Government was mapping vaccination through specific nationwide drives via the CoWIN app.

'All Pharmacists must be trained to administer jabs'

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (BCT)- Regular market approval to Covishield and Covaxin vaccines may not make much of a difference to Pharmacists as they are not trained in vaccination, said N. Raghavan, proprietor of Raghulal & Co., Mysuru.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning regarding the Government's Subject Expert Committee (SEC) recommending granting regular market approval to Covishield and Covaxin, he said that the approval will enable over-the-counter sales in the due course but will not be much of a use to Pharma business.

"But the point here is that Pharmacists are not trained in administering vaccines. In Western countries, all Pharmacists are trained in inoculation but in India we cannot do so as there is no upgradation of syllabus in B-Pharma to include inoculation. If we are trained and given a chance to inoculate people, we can do it as a service and at the same time, expand our business. Also, this will considerably reduce pressure on doctors, nurses and other paramedical staff," he said.

This pandemic will not end as in the future there will be many variants and vaccination too is needed. "I really hope the Government upgrades the B-Pharma course to include inoculation so that it can at least decrease the burden of the medical fraternity. We need to be future-proof," he added.

N. Raghavan

Even over-the-counter availability of Covishield and Covaxin will not boost sales as already, vaccination of both the doses has been completed and now a third dose is being administered. "India has achieved wonders in vaccination and is far better than the most powerful and first world countries that are lagging behind. Even if newer strains come, our own vaccines are capable of preventing them," he added.

DRM Diagnostics inaugurated in city

Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra inaugurated 'DRM Diagnostics' on KRS Road, Gokulam, in city this morning by cutting the ribbon along with Mysuru Jayadeva Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr. K.S. Sadananda. Others seen are DRM Diagnostics Directors Dr. B. H. Manjunath & D.T. Prakash, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, MMC&RI Dean & Director Dr. H.N. Dinesh, Corporators SBM Manju and Bhagya Mahadesh.

OBITUARY

AL-Haj Dr. Ismail Shariff

Prof. EMERITUS (Chairperson Dept. of Economics) University of Green Bay, Wisconsin, U.S.A, Consultant World Bank, passed away on 18th January, burial held at Riverside Cemetery, Appleton, Wisconsin. Dr. Ismail Shariff was the elder brother of Late AL-Haj Dastagir Shariff, Class 1 PWD Contractor, MGS Construction, Mysore. May Allah SWT grant him the highest place in Jannatul-Firdous.

—Grieving Wife, sons, grandchildren, a host of relatives & friends.

Inserted by: Al-Hajia Shakeera Begum, W/o. Late Al Haj Dastagir Shariff, Mohammed Shariff, Class 1 PWD Contractor, Mysore & grieving family.

MYSORE TRAIN TIMINGS

FROM MYSURU RAILWAY STATION TOWARDS KSR BENGALURU

Train No.	From Station	To Station	Mysuru Departure	Bengaluru Arrival	Days of Service	
16586	Mangaluru	KSR Bengaluru	03.15	06.15	Mon, Wed & Fri	Fully reserved
12610	Mysuru	Chennai	05.00	07.45	Daily	Fully reserved
16217	Mysuru	Shirdi	05.30	07.55	Monday	Fully reserved
17326	Mysuru	Belagavi	05.50	08.40	Daily	Unreserved
06256	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	06.10	09.15	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
16215	Mysuru	Bengaluru	06.45	09.35	Daily	Unreserved
16229	Mysuru	Varanasi	07.20	09.55	Tue & Thu	Fully reserved
16023	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	08.10	11.00	Daily	Unreserved
07345	Chamarajanagar	KSR Bengaluru	09.05	13.15	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
12975	Mysuru	Jaipur	10.30	12.55	Thu & Sat	Fully reserved
12578	Mysuru	Darbhanga	10.30	13.35	Friday	Fully reserved
12613	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	11.30	14.00	Daily	Partially unreserved
16315	Mysuru	Kochuveli	12.50	16.35	Daily	Fully reserved
17307	Mysuru	Bagalkot	13.25	16.35	Daily	Partially unreserved
06258	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	13.45	16.55	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
12008	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	14.15	16.10	Daily Except Wed	Shatabdi Express
16557	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	14.30	17.20	Daily	Unreserved
12786	Mysuru	Kacheguda	15.15	17.40	Daily	Fully reserved
16535	Mysuru	Solapur	15.45	18.35	Daily	Partially unreserved
16232	Mysuru	Mayiladuturai	16.30	18.50	Daily	Fully reserved
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	16.55	20.20	Daily	Fully reserved
16236	Mysuru	Tuticorin	18.20	20.55	Daily	Fully reserved
16592	Mysuru	Hubballi	18.35	21.40	Daily	Partially unreserved
16210	Mysuru	Ajmer	19.00	22.10	Tue & Thu	Fully reserved
16227	Mysuru	Talguppa	19.30	22.55	Daily	Partially unreserved
22681	Mysuru	Chennai	20.10	22.50	Wednesday	Fully reserved
16022	Mysuru	Chennai	21.00	23.45	Daily	Fully reserved
06560	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	22.20	01.15	Daily	Unreserved
11065	Mysuru	Renigunta	22.55	01.30	Friday	Fully reserved
22818	Mysuru	Howrah	23.45	02.00	Sunday	Fully reserved

STAR OF MYSORE Service to readers

DEPARTING FROM KSR BENGALURU AND ARRIVING MYSURU

Train No.	From Station	To Station	Bengaluru Departure	Mysuru Arrival	Days of Service	
22817	Howrah	Mysuru	01.10	03.45	Sunday	Fully reserved
16218	Shirdi	Mysuru	01.50	04.40	Thursday	Fully reserved
06559	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	02.05	05.15	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
16021	Chennai	Mysuru	04.00	06.40	Daily	Fully reserved
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	04.30	07.00	Daily	Fully reserved
16228	Talguppa	Mysuru	05.05	08.20	Daily	Partially unreserved
22682	Chennai	Mysuru	05.25	08.00	Friday	Fully reserved
16231	Mayiladuturai	Mysuru	06.00	09.10	Daily	Fully reserved
16591	Hubballi	Mysuru	06.00	08.45	Daily	Partially unreserved
12785	Kacheguda	Mysuru	06.45	09.35	Daily	Fully reserved
16235	Tuticorin	Mysuru	07.15	10.20	Daily	Fully reserved
16536	Solapur	Mysuru	07.30	10.45	Daily	Fully reserved
16316	Kochuveli	Mysuru	08.35	11.20	Daily	Fully reserved
06257	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	09.20	12.45	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
06567	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	10.30	13.20	Daily	Unreserved
12007	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	10.50	13.00	Daily Except Wed	Shatabdi Express
17308	Bagalkot	Mysuru	11.15	14.10	Daily	Partially unreserved
16024	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	13.00	16.15	Daily	Unreserved
12976	Jaipur	Mysuru	13.15	15.55	Wed & Fri	Fully reserved
12614	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	15.15	17.45	Daily	Partially unreserved
07346	KSR Bengaluru	Chamarajanagar	15.35	18.35	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
12577	Darbhanga	Mysuru	17.15	20.00	Thursday	Fully reserved
17325	Belagavi	Mysuru	17.45	20.40	Daily	Partially unreserved
16216	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	18.15	21.05	Daily	Unreserved
06255	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	19.00	22.10	Daily	Unreserved
12609	Chennai	Mysuru	19.50	22.50	Daily	Fully reserved
16585	KSR Bengaluru	Mangaluru	20.30	23.00	Wed, Fri & Sun	Fully reserved
16230	Varanasi	Mysuru	20.45	23.30	Mon & Sat	Fully reserved
11066	Renigunta	Mysuru	23.20	01.50	Saturday	Fully reserved
16209	Ajmer	Mysuru	23.30	02.15	Tue & Sun	Fully reserved

TOWARDS HASSAN, ARSIKERE, DAVANGERE, HAVERI, HUBBALLI, DADAR, NEW DELHI AND BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service	
16206	Mysuru	Talguppa	06.00	13.15	Daily	Partially unreserved
11036	Mysuru	Dadar	06.15	05.30 (next day)	Sunday (Mysuru)	Fully reserved
07313 (Express)	Mysuru	Yesvantpur	07.45	10.55 (Hassan)	Daily	Unreserved
06225	Mysuru	Shivamogga	10.15	16.25	Daily	Unreserved
06214	Mysuru	Arsikere	17.45	21.50	Daily	Unreserved
12781	Mysuru	Hazrat Nizamuddin	20.10 (Fri)	17.50 (Sun)	Friday	Fully reserved
17301	Mysuru	Dharwad	22.30	08.05	Daily	Partially unreserved
07302	Dharwad	Mysuru	21.05	07.20	Daily	Partially unreserved
06213	Arsikere	Mysuru	05.00	09.25	Daily	Unreserved
06226	Shivamogga	Mysuru	11.15	16.50	Daily	Unreserved
07314 (Express)	Yesvantpur	Mysuru	16.05 (Hassan)	19.40	Daily	Unreserved
11035	Dadar	Mysuru	21.30	21.40 (next day)	Thursday (Dadar)	Fully reserved
16205	Talguppa	Mysuru	15.00	22.15	Daily	Partially unreserved
12782	Hazrat Nizamuddin	Mysuru	05.10 (Mon)	03.30 (Wed)	Monday	Fully reserved

TOWARDS MYSURU TO CHAMARAJANAGAR AND BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service	
07327	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	05.00	06.35	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	07.20 (Mys)	09.10	Daily	Fully reserved
06233	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	09.15	10.55	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
07346	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	19.00	20.45	Daily	Unreserved
07345	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	07.15	08.50	Daily	Unreserved
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	15.30	16.45	Daily	Fully reserved
06234	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	17.00	18.40	Daily Passenger	Unreserved
07328	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	21.30	23.10	Daily Passenger	Unreserved

DECODING MYTHOLOGY

Dr. Devdutt Pattanaik - Author, Speaker, Illustrator, Mythologist

The Act of Seeing

To see or not to see, that is the question. The difference between an organism and an object is that the organism can sense the world around it. It's sentient. Organism needs to sense the world around in order to stay alive. It needs to sense the presence of food, and the presence of threat, in order to move. It needs to distinguish between ally and rival in order to form relationships.

Wind and water cannot see obstacles. They strike into the obstacle and only then turn. Plants can sense the obstacle and opportunity and accordingly grow their branches and roots. Animal movements are guided by sight and sound and smell, and even invisible vibrations and radiations, where food is likely to be, and where there is less risk of danger.

With humans, things get complicated. We can see more than the physical body because humans display their wealth, power, knowledge, status using various symbols. Not only do we understand symbols, we judge them as we are culturally conditioned to see everything in a value, power, aesthetic, moral or ethical hierarchy.

The Chinese eat food using chopsticks and may be alarmed at the sight of Indians using the fingers of the right hand to pick food. Both groups will argue why eating one way is better than the other.

The idea of jewellery as a marker of wealth makes no rational sense, but it does appeal to the ego. People from desert cultures wear veils and masks even when away from the desert, not to protect themselves from sandstorms but because it is now a cultural marker, an indicator of identity.

So what we show is not rational. And what we see is not rational either. In addition, every human being experiences various emotions from jealousy to hatred, from greed to anger. We cannot see this, but we experience the consequences of it.

The act of seeing gives us insight into others and reflection of our own selves. We observe in conversations how some friends can turn every engagement about themselves. It is always about them not others. Or when they see you, they are actually seeing your status, your wealth, your power, not you — not your fears and insecurity.

This is why the most important ritual act in a Hindu temple is called *darshan* or observing. The visitor sees the deity enshrined. The deity typically has large eyes and is expected to see the visitor back. The image of the deity is unlike regular idols. It is rendered conscious and sentient by special rituals known as *prana-sthapana*. Then it is imagined as being conscious. It is now the '*archa*' *murti* that is ready for '*archana*' or adoration.

Unlike a plant or an animal, that looks for only opportunities and threats to its survival, the deity can see the opportunities and threats that threaten the survival of the devotee and help him. And the devotee also shows he is capable of caring for the other by offering the deity food, clothes and comfort. Perhaps the ancients through the ritual of *darshan* were trying to draw our attention to empathy. We expect Gods to see us, but do we see fellow humans?

devdutt@devdutt.com

'Martial arts not getting its due in the country'

Mysuru, Jan.20 (GA&DM)- Maintaining that India is home for martial arts, Senior Journalist C. Maheshwaran, who is also a martial arts expert, stressed on the need for promoting the art.

He was speaking at 'Kalaripayat' demonstration programme organised at Bhoomigeetha in Rangayana premises as part of Rangayana Foundation Day here on Friday.

Pointing out that martial arts does not mean any physical bout or fight between individuals or groups, Maheshwaran said it is an art that is aimed at personality development. He said that martial arts in the Indian context also involves moral training and added that Balaram, the elder brother of Lord Krishna, was the first martial artist.

Rangayana Director Addanda C. Cariappa, in his address, urged the Government to earmark separate funds for promotion of Indian theatre education. Recalling that actress B. Jayashree, who served as Rangayana Director earlier, had dreamt of providing theatre education, Cariappa said that Lingadevaru Halemane had realised that dreams and now he was taking that much forward. Pointing out that he has appealed Kannada and Culture Minister to earmark separate funds for promotion of Indian theatre education, he said that it was difficult to provide *Ranga Shikshana* out of Rangayana grants. Cariappa further said that he has sought Rs.50 lakh for Indian theatre education.

Martial Arts trainer Anju Singh from Manipur, who was felicitated in Rangayana recently, is seen with *(from left)* ***Rangayana Administrative Officer Nirmala Matapathi, Rangayana Director Addanda C. Cariappa, Senior Journalist C. Maheshwaran and Martial Arts trainer Vinod Kadangal.***

Martial Arts trainer Anju Singh from Manipur, who has been serving in Rangayana for the past 22 years, was felicitated on the occasion.

Bharatiya Ranga Shikshana students presented a Kalaripayat demonstration.

Martial Arts trainer Vinod Kadangal, Rangayana Administrative Officer Nirmala Matapathi, Bharatiya Ranga Kendra Head S. Ramanath and others were present.

Rotary e-Club of Mysuru Centre formed

Connecting Global Mysureans for Good Cause

Mysuru, Jan. 20 - Rotary e-Club of Mysuru Centre, a new club has been formed under Rotary District 3181.

The newly initiated e-Club has members from across the globe and connects many Mysureans who are settled in different parts of the world with deep love and compassion for their city and community.

Addressing media persons at Pathrakarthara Bhavan here on Wednesday, Rtn. B.C. Shadakshari Swamy, President of Rotary e-Club of Mysuru Centre, said "We are a global professional team with passion to serve community to change lives. Though our members live 100s and 1000s of miles away, we care for local causes. One thing in common in all of us is that we carry a special love towards our city 'Mysuru' and we are committed to working together to bring about a change."

A group photo of the office-bearers of Rotary e-Club of Mysuru Centre. *Standing from left:* ***Rtn. M. Mayur, Rtn. Vinod Kumar, Rtn. Akarsh, Rtn. Jyothi Rachel, Rtn. Karthik Pandit, Rtn. C.T. Bopanna, Rtn. Ravishankar;*** *Sitting from left:* ***Rtn. M.S. Tejesh Kumar, Rtn. B.C. Shadakshari Swamy, ADG Rtn. S.R. Swamy, DG Rtn. A.R. Ravindra Bhat, Rtn. Ramachandra Raje Urs, Rtn. K. Subramanya Rao, Rtn. Dr. P.K. Keshava and Rtn. S. Manjesh.***

This is the first e-Club being formed under Rotary District 3181 and has been charted by Rotary Mysore, one of the oldest Clubs in the country, and served community for more than 75 years. He also mentioned that Rotary e-Club of Mysuru is already working with select schools and supporting during this pandemic situation; similarly it has plans to take up projects in Healthcare, Education and Vocational development and help communities with its unique virtual connect and global presence.

Recently the installation ceremony of this newly formed Club was held with B.C. Shadakshari Swamy as President, M. S. Tejesh Kumar - Secretary, Dr. Karthik Pandit - Treasurer, C.T. Bopanna - Director, Community Services, Jyothi Rachel - Director, Club Services, Prof. Vivekananda - Director, Vocational Services, N. Sudheer - Director, Youth Services, Prabhakar Ashwin - Director, International Service, M. Mayur - Joint Secretary, Akarsh - Sergeant-at-Arms and Vinod Kumar Jathanna - Membership Chair.

WORD OF THE DAY

Sanguine

Pronunciation: SANG-gwin.
Meaning: Sanguine means "confidently optimistic."
Origin: If you're the sort of cheery soul who always looks on the bright side no matter what happens, you have a sanguine personality. Sanguine is the name of one of the temperaments that ancient and medieval scholars believed was caused by an abundance of one of the four humours. It comes from sanguineus — Latin for "of or relating to blood" or "bloody"— and over centuries has had meanings ranging from "bloodthirsty" and "bloodred" to "confidently optimistic."
Example: "Mystifyingly, the Tony-nominated actress was never invited to audition for the 2020 Broadway revival of ... 'West Side Story.' But given the way things worked out, [Ariana DeBose]—who was cast in Spielberg's movie shortly afterward—is pretty sanguine about the slight. 'I think everything happens for a reason,' she says. 'That was not my blessing. That was somebody else's blessing.'" — Sara Stewart

THE ODD WORD

Saltant

Leaping; dancing.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Southpaw

Meaning: The phrase 'Southpaw' refers to someone who is left-handed.
Origin: The term 'southpaw' originated in baseball, sometime around 1885. Left-handed pitchers face south, as standard baseball diamonds are laid out with their home plates facing west.
Example: "Ben's a southpaw, just like his grandfather."

QUOTE BOX

Everyone in the South has no time for reading because they are all too busy writing. **— William Faulkner**

RIDDLE THIS

What is seen in the middle of March and April that can't be seen at the beginning or end of either month?

Answer: The letter "R."

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

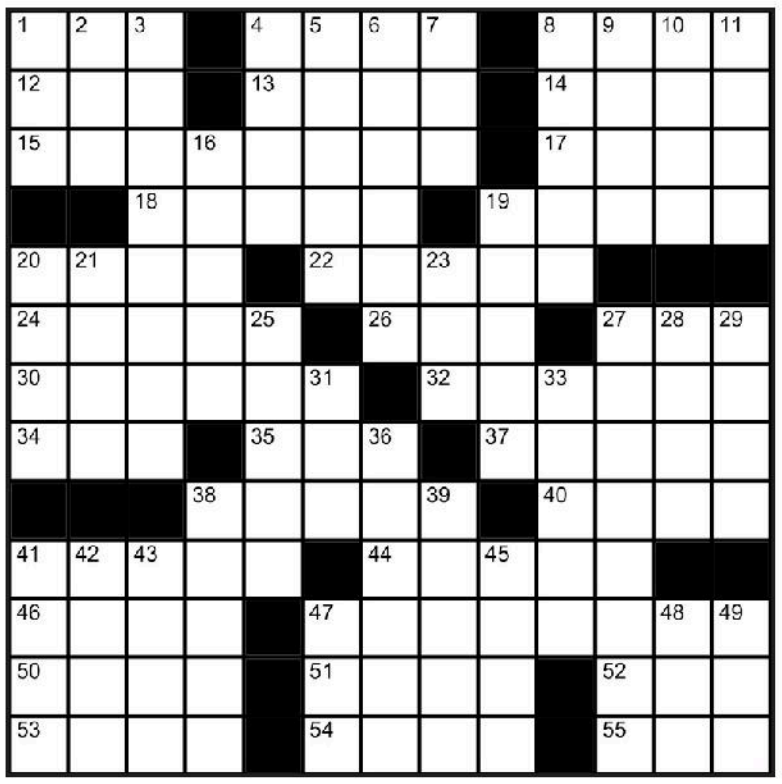
1 Son of Jacob
4 Revise copy
8 Industrious insects
12 ___ Arun : playback singer ?
13 In physics force is measured by this unit
14 Gambling game
15 Malicious
17 Welsh boy's name
18 Passenger vessel
19 Underground chapel
20 Pop drink
22 English writer
24 Ancient marketplace
26 Mr. Anand of Bollywood
27 Centre for Energy Studies, acronym
30 Recompense
32 Evict an alien
34 Knowledge
35 Cheerleader's chant
37 African lake - "as any" anagram?
38 Fizzy drinks
40 ____ Chappell : ex-Australian cricket captain?
41 Drinking-tube
44 Wanders about aimlessly
46 Secular; a layman
47 It has 366 days (4,4)
50 Frenziedly misbehaving
51 Ex-India batsman Pravin ___
52 Standard in short?
53 Corrects - animal surgeons, in short
54 State dissolved in 1991
55 Three as a prefix

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

S	I	M	I	■	P	O	W	■	S	N	A	P
K	E	E	P	■	R	A	A	■	I	O	T	A
Y	E	N	S	■	O	F	F	E	N	D	E	D
S	E	A	■	O	U	S	T	S	■	E	N	S
■	■	C	O	L	D	■	I	P	O	■	■	■
S	E	I	N	E	■	A	N	Y	T	I	M	E
O	M	N	I	■	B	I	G	■	T	R	A	P
B	I	G	O	T	E	D	■	C	E	R	C	I
■	■	■	N	E	T	■	P	U	R	I	■	■
A	A	G	■	S	T	E	A	M	■	T	U	B
F	L	A	T	T	E	R	Y	■	R	A	N	A
A	B	I	D	■	R	O	E	■	O	T	I	S
R	A	T	S	■	S	S	E	■	T	E	T	E

DOWN

1 Prefix with "cover" and "please"
2 High mountain
3 Successfully obtain a position (4,4)
4 Kolkata's ___ Gardens
5 Welsh county
6 Become ___ : become used to or accustomed to?
7 Aviv leader
8 Ablaze
9 Warships collectively
10 Too much in Toulouse
11 Choose or select; put in order
16 Head ornament
19 Assembly of witches
20 A Channel Island
21 Curved moulding
23 __ up: bored and tired
25 Archer's missile
27 Most rough or crude or rude
28 Irish
29 Male deer
31 Father
33 Undersized person
36 Seraglios
38 Pillages or loots
39 Flies like an eagle
41 East European
42 Mild or docile
43 Uprising
45 Mimic or copier
47 Fijian island
48 Air Transp. Radio
49 Radio Direction Indicator, acronym



SUDOKU

			2	9				
		6				1		
					6	7	8	
		5		2			1	9
7			8		9			5
3	9			4		2		
	4	2	3					
		7				3		
				6	1			

Answer to previous puzzle

7	6	5	2	3	4	8	1	9
3	1	2	6	9	8	5	7	4
9	8	4	1	7	5	2	3	6
8	2	3	7	5	6	9	4	1
1	4	9	3	8	2	7	6	5
5	7	6	4	1	9	3	8	2
6	9	7	5	4	3	1	2	8
2	3	8	9	6	1	4	5	7
4	5	1	8	2	7	6	9	3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

NE LCZNNAM ZDR LECCEP ENTAMJ, PXNTEYN

VAXDS LCZNNAMAR ZDR LECCEPAR XD NYMD,

XJ VYN Z JNZNA EL TZCL ADUEIKADN.

TODAY'S CLUE: S EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: After being turned down by numerous Publishers, he had decided to write for posterity.

Piteelu Chowdaiah Award conferred on Ganapathy Swamiji

Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Swamiji, who was honoured with Piteelu Chowdaiah Lifetime Award in city last evening, is seen with (from left) Sangeetha Ratna Mysore T. Chowdaiah Samsmarana Vedike Trustee Dr. M.A. Shekar, Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha President T. R. Harish, Secretary K.S.N. Prasad and Flutist A. Chandan Kumar, the great-grandson of Piteelu Chowdaiah. Picture right shows Vidwan A. Chandan Kumar presenting a flute recital accompanied by Vidushi Charulatha Ramanujan on the violin, Vidwan H.S. Sudheendra on mridanga and Vidwan G.S. Ramanujan on ghata.

Mysuru, Jan. 20 (MK&DM)- Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Swamiji was conferred the prestigious Piteelu Chowdaiah Lifetime Award at a programme jointly organised by Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha and Sangeetha Ratna Mysore T. Chowdaiah Samsmarana Vedike at the Sabha premises on JLB road here last evening.

Speaking after receiving the award, Ganapathy Swamiji said that listening to music will help overcome our sorrows and grief. Wondering how many people would not like to listen to music, he said that everyone needs music for a refreshing mind. Maintaining that music flows in our blood and veins, the Swamiji said that according to some music scholars, there is music even in our breathing.

Contending that practicing Pranayama and Yoga on a daily basis will keep most of the diseases and ailments at bay, he said that the COVID outbreak has taught us many lessons on what would happen if we go against nature.

Noting that the pandemic has taught many about the value of discipline and money, he regretted that the livelihood of several musicians has come under threat due to the pandemic. He stressed on the need for coming to the aid of musicians who are hard hit by the pandemic.

Recalling the contribution of Music Maestro Piteelu Chowdaiah, he said Chowdaiah, who was popularly known as 'Mysore Chowdaiah', was liked by one and all. Sri Swamiji also recalled his meetings with the legendary musical icon.

The event was followed by a flute performance by Vidwan A. Chandan Kumar, the great-grandson of Piteelu Chowdaiah, which enthralled the audience. He was accompanied by Vidushi Charulatha Ramanujan on the violin, Vidwan H.S. Sudheendra on mridanga and Vidwan G.S. Ramanujan on ghata.

Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha President T.R. Harish, Secretary K.S.N. Prasad, Sangeetha Ratna Mysore T. Chowdaiah Samsmarana Vedike Trustee Dr. M.A. Shekar and others were present.

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

Padma Theatre **Ph: 2521923**
Bangarraju - Soggadu Malli Vachadu (Te) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS **Ph: 4240422, 4241800**

Spiderman - No Way Home (3D-E)	(S-1)	1.05 pm
Bangarraju (Te)	(S-1)	4.00 pm, 7.00 pm
	(S-3)	10.05 am
Badava Rascal (K)	(S-2)	10.45 am, 1.25 pm, 4.10 pm
	(S-3)	7.00 pm
83 (H)	(S-2)	6.55 pm
	(S-3)	4.00 pm
The King's Man (E)	(S-3)	1.20 pm
Rajakumara (K)	(S-4)	10.10 am, 1.05 pm
		4.00 pm, 6.55 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE **Ph: 2533444 / 2533456**

Bangarraju (Te)	:	10.40 am, 2.15 pm, 5.50 pm
Rowdy Boys (Te)	:	11.15 am, 6.00 pm
83 (H)	:	11.25 am
The King's Man (E)	:	11.35 am, 6.10 pm
Hero - 2022 (Te)	:	2.25 pm
Spider-Man: No Way Home (E)	:	2.45 pm
Badava Rascal (K)	:	3.00 pm
Pushpa: The Rise - Part 1 (Te)	:	5.30 pm

PVR CINEMAS

Forum Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Bangarraju (Te)	:	11.30 am, 2.50 pm, 6.10 pm
Pushpa: The Rise - Part 1 (H)	:	11.35 am
The King's Man (E)	:	12.30 pm, 6.30 pm
Badava Rascal (K)	:	12.35 pm, 3.25 pm, 6.15 pm
Enna Solla Pogirai (Ta)	:	12.45 pm
83 (H)	:	3.05 pm
Rowdy Boys (Te)	:	3.25 pm, 6.35 pm
Hero - 2022 (Te)	:	3.40 pm
Spider-Man: No Way Home (E)	:	6.35 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Badava Rascal (K)	:	11.30 am, 1.05 pm, 4 pm, 6.55 pm
The King's Man (E)	:	11.45 am, 3.55 pm, 6.50 pm
Bangarraju (Te)	:	12.35 pm, 2.40 pm, 6.00 pm
Pushpa: The Rise - Part 1 (K)	:	2.25 pm
Rowdy Boys (Te)	:	6.25 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS **Ph: 0821 - 2973519**

Bangarraju - Soggadu Malli Vachadu (Te)	:	3.00 pm
		4.45 pm
		6.45 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here.

Vid. Ballary M. Raghavendra sings at Heritage Music Fest

Vidwan Ballary M. Raghavendra presenting a vocal recital at 8th Cross, V. V. Mohalla, last evening (Jan. 19) as part of the 60th Heritage Music Festival organised by Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust. He is accompanied by Vidushi Adithi Krishnaprasad on violin, Vid. Tumkur B. Ravishankar on mridanga, Vid. Vikram Bharadwaj on morching and Vid. Hari on tambura. Today (Jan. 20) at 6.15 pm, Vid. Ashwath Narayan presents a vocal recital accompanied by Vid. Vaibhav Ramani on violin, Vid. Vijay Natesan on mridanga and Vid. Anoor Sunaad on khanjira. [Only those who have taken two doses of COVID vaccine can attend the event]

PRO KABADDI

Today's Matches (JAN. 20)

Tamil Thalaivas Vs **Gujarat Giants** 7.30 pm

Bengaluru Bulls Vs **Patna Pirates** 8.30 pm

Tomorrow's Matches (JAN. 21)

Dabang Delhi Vs **Haryana Steelers** 7.30 pm

Bengal Warriors Vs **UP Yoddha** 8.30 pm

Yesterday's Results

Haryana Steelers 37
Beat
Puneri Paltan 30

Pink Panthers 34
Lose to
Telugu Titans 35

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Grieving Husband, Children and Grandchildren

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